

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in this application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A dental crown formed of a thermoplastic polymer material, said crown being configured as a continuous structure of a natural appearance of a vital tooth and comprising[:]
a tooth shaped top surface[:]] and
~~a continuous structure of~~ depending flexible side surfaces, at least a part of ~~said structure~~ the depending side surfaces having an inwardly directed bottom portion.
2. (Original) A dental crown according to claim 1, wherein said thermoplastic polymer material comprising a polymer selected from polyacetal, polyacrylate, polymethylmethacrylate (PMMA), polyamide, polyaryletherketone (PAEK), polyetherketone (PEK), polyetheretherketone (PEEK), polyetherimide (PEI), polyethersulfone (PES), polysulfone (PSU), and mixtures thereof.
3. (Currently amended) A dental crown according to claim 2, wherein said ~~thermoplastic~~ polymer is a homo- or co-polymer of acetal resin, polyetheretherketone (PEEK) or polymethylmethacrylate (PMMA).
4. (Original) A dental crown according to claim 1, wherein said thermoplastic polymer material further comprising at least one of the following: fibers, fillers, pigments and reinforcements.
5. (Original) A dental crown according to claim 1, formed by injection molding.
6. (Previously presented) A dental crown according to claim 5, produced by a mass production injection molding method, said mass production injection molding method comprising:
providing a multi-element mold; and

employing the multi-element mold to injection mold a dental crown from a thermoplastic polymer material.

7. (Original) A dental crown according to claim 6, wherein said multi-element mold includes an ejector, which is being operated to eject the molded crown following opening the multi-element mold.
8. (Original) A dental crown according to claim 1, formed by compression molding.
9. (Original) A dental crown according to claim 1, formed by machining.